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(19) **United States**(12) **Patent Application Publication** (10) Pub. No.: **US 2002/0059106 A1**
Tani (43) Pub. Date: **May 16, 2002**(54) **CONSUMABLE GOODS AND SERVICES
PROVIDING SYSTEM**(52) U.S. Cl. **705/26; 709/203**(76) Inventor: **Masayuki Tani, Yokohama City (JP)**(57) **ABSTRACT**

Correspondence Address:
JACOBSON HOLMAN PLLC
400 SEVENTH STREET N.W.
SUITE 600
WASHINGTON, DC 20004 (US)

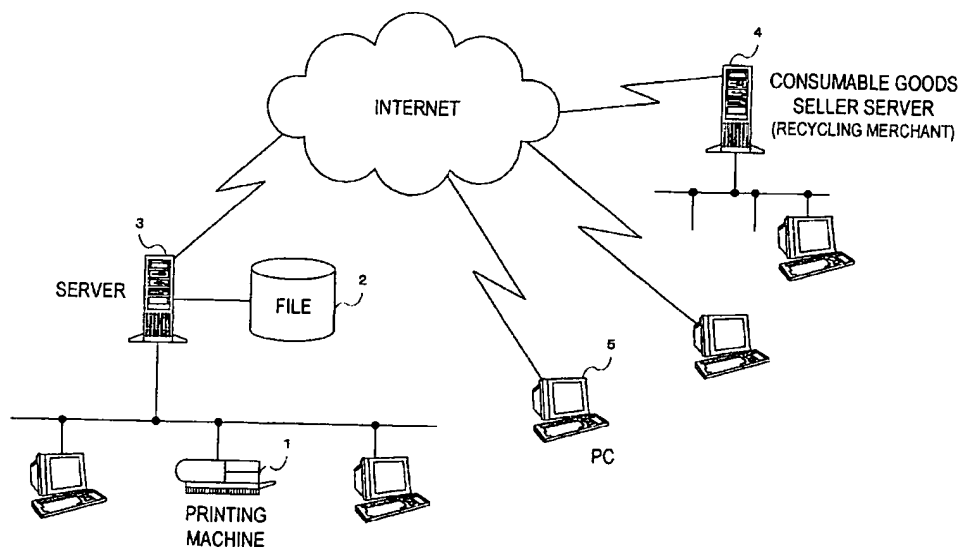
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A consumable goods providing system is provided in which consumable goods or substitute recycling consumable goods can be quickly and efficiently provided.

The consumable goods providing system in which use information associated with a printing machine connected to a LAN is stored in a file via a server that manages it, and a server on a consumable goods providing side obtains the use information within the file via a internet to presume a delivery schedule of the consumable goods of the printing machine and, upon a delivery schedule date, to conduct a forwarding procedure of the consumable goods or the substitute recycling consumable goods with an equivalent level in terms of a recycling number to the consumable goods that are scheduled to be delivered.



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TITLE: Consumable goods and services providing system

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Current US Classification, US Primary Class/Subclass - CCPR (1):

705/26

Detail Description Paragraph - DETX (26):

[0046] In accordance with the first system, in case that the user's printing machine 1 is connected to the LAN, if information of the toner near end is stored in the file 2 via the server 3 from this printing machine 1, it is possible that the consumable goods seller's server 4 periodically accesses the user (customer)'s server 3 to obtain information within the file 2 associated with the printing machine 1 that has become to be in the toner end to presume from this toner near end the delivery schedule date of the consumable goods and to forward it, and accordingly, the advantage is effected that the procedure of getting an order and forwarding of the consumable goods is quickly executed and simplified, furthermore the customer can get the consumable goods such as the **toner cartridge** and so forth before the toner empty, and a disturbance of a flow of the customer's business does not occur.

Detail Description Paragraph - DETX (29):

[0049] In the second system, in case that the toner of the customer's printing machine has run out, the consumable goods seller (the recycling merchant) is to supply to the customer the other **toner cartridge** than the cartridge of which toner has been replaced, and the suitable substitute recycling consumable goods can be quickly and efficiently provided.

Detail Description Paragraph - DETX (30):

[0050] However, the number of the recycling during which the **toners of the cartridge** can be replaced has been determined in advance, depending upon the model thereof, and the consumable goods seller's server 4 or the customer's

server 3 manages the "recyclable number" on each **toner cartridge**.

Detail Description Paragraph - DETX (31):

[0051] For example, if the server 4 is to manage the "recyclable number" on each cartridge, it means that the server 4 manages an address of the printing machine, a type of the printing machine, a type of the **toner cartridge**, and the recyclable number thereof on each customer.

Detail Description Paragraph - DETX (89):

[0109] Herein, what is called information of the printer, for example, is information associated with the ink shortage of the ink cartridge if the local printer 21 is an ink jet printer, and is information associated with the toner shortage of the **toner cartridge** if it is a laser beam printer.